

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An animal identification and security system and method assigns an identifying code uniquely associated with each system member and each animal owned by the member. An identification code imprinted on a marker attached to the animal includes information uniquely identifying the animal's owner including a two letter abbreviation of the state of residence, a numerical identifier of the county of residence, and an assigned number designating the owner's ranch/farm within the indicated county. The identification code further includes a letter designation of the type of animal and the individual animal's number within the owner's herd/flock, as well as a two letter designation of the animal's country of origin. The identifying codes are maintained in a computerized system at a central location for dissemination on a global information network for facilitating the return of lost or stolen animals to the rightful owner and to indicate the origin of all registered animals.